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OCA 87-5567 4 November 1987

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NOTE FOR: The Director

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FROM:

Dave Gries

SUBJECT:

Views Letter on Boren/Cohen Bill

Attached at Tab A is our draft views letter on the Intelligence Oversight Act of 1987 (S. 1721). This letter is not being submitted for your signature. Instead, we are seeking to obtain your consent to release this letter in draft format to the White House, the Department of Justice, the NSC, Office of Management and Budget and the rest of the Intelligence Community so that they may comment on our views letter. Attached at Tab B is a copy of the bill. The portions addressed in the views letter are scored in yellow.

In preparing this letter, we have made two assumptions:

- that you would want to oppose flatly the most onerous provisions of the bill; and
- that you would defer to the Justice Department to make arguments concerning constitutional implications of the bill.

The NSC has instructed us not to discuss the bill at all with the oversight committees. The NSC believes that the President should veto the bill because of Constitutional president and does not want us to imply otherwise by infringement and does not want us to imply otherwise by negotiating certain provisions with the oversight committees. They have asked requested that the views letter not suggest any possible compromises.

At a meeting today with the NSC, I was informed that they intend to put the Boren/Cohen bill on the agenda for your meeting with Mr. Carlucci tomorrow. Topics that may be raised in the meeting are the following:

--whether you would agree to testify before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence as the Administration witness on the Boren/Cohen bill; and

--whether you concur with the approach to avoid raising possible compromises in the views letter.

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Attachments

All portions classified CONFIDENTIAL

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